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find any males in ten observations in the same place in the years 1857 and 1869, although nearly 10,000 specimens were carefully investigated. The chapter on *Polistes* is really a masterpiece. In the concluding remarks is stated the law that in Hymenoptera (*Apidæ*, *Vespidæ*, *Tenthredinidæ*) the parthenogenesis development always results in males, while in *Lepidoptera* and *Crustacea* (*Psychidæ*, *Talæporidæ*, *Phyllopoda*) always females. The first, the Parthenogenesis resulting in males, is called *Arnenotoxy* by Leuckart; the second resulting in females is called *Thelytoxy* by Siebold. There are some observations recorded on an initial development without impregnation of the egg in vertebrate animals, by Oellacher on the hen, by Hensen on the rabbit, by L. Agassiz on codfishes. Finally, the fact that no male of the eel has been found is shaken; a fact which suggests that they are produced by parthenogenesis.—H. HAGEN.

ETHNOGRAPHY OF THE SHORES OF BEHRING SEA.\*—This well known author having visited Behring Sea nearly forty years ago, has now collected all the ethnographical facts of those parts, as its people are rapidly becoming extinguished and their customs are dying out. The chapters are: concerning the Aleuts; concerning Koljusches; the names of the people along the northern American and Asiatic shores; voyage from Kamtschatka to Sitka; reception in Sitka; the Koljusches in Sitka; the religion and legends of the Koljusches; liberty and slavery of the Koljusches; their exterior appearance; their industry together with that of the neighboring people, their dress and the material of it, their shipbuilding, the metallurgy, their food and vessels for preparing it; the Aleuts, their physical constitution, sexual customs, dwellings, shipbuilding and navigation, weapons of the chase and hunting, anatomy and medicines, sense of beauty and æsthetical enjoyments, legends and songs, numbers in the language and words for numbering of all people around the Behring sea. Finally, there is a chapter on the history of the instruments used for making fire by primitive people.—H. HAGEN.

EARLY STAGES OF DRAGON FLIES.†—The dragon flies are said to

\* Ethnographical observations and experiences on the shores of the Behring Sea by Prof. A. Erman in the *Zeitschrift für Ethnology*, 1870 and 1871. p. 295-326 p. 369-393. p. 149-175 p. 205-219 with a map.

† Illustrated Catalogue of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, No. V. The Immature State of the Odonata. Part I.—Subfamily Gomphina. By Louis Cabot. Large 8vo. pp. 18. Three lithographic plates. Cambridge. 1872.

be difficult to raise from the larva state, but the difficulty can be overcome, and we hope that this paper with the beautiful plates containing figures of so many forms, may excite students in entomology to rear our dragon flies in aquaria. It is this kind of work that tells in advancing science, and a work to which the labors of systematists are largely preparatory. Those who live away from libraries and museums can easily devote themselves to observing the habits and early stages of insects, and thus do as much, or even more, to advance entomology than they who give their time to describing new species. Mr. Cabot describes the immature stages (larva and pupa) of seventeen species of which four were raised and identified beyond any doubt. Dr. Hagen holds himself responsible for the determination of the species and gives a synopsis at the end taken from Mr. Cabot's description.

THE LENS.\*—In spite of the fire the first number of this new scientific journal has been reprinted and issued with commendable promptness. Among the original articles is a conspectus of the "Families and Genera of the Diatomaceæ," by Prof. H. L. Smith, which will prove very useful to students; while botanists will be interested in the list of plants about Chicago, by H. H. Babcock. Dr. J. J. Woodward describes a new method of photographing histological preparations by sunlight. Dr. Danforth contributes a useful article on the preparation and preservation of sections of soft tissues, and the editor gives us a list of the Diatoms of Lake Michigan with a description of a new *Rhizosolenia* (*R. eriensis*). The selected articles and miscellany are timely, and the whole appearance of the magazine very pleasing.

## BOTANY.

DISPERSION OF SEEDS BY THE WIND. — A Kerner, director of the Botanic Garden at Innsbruck in the Tyrol, has contributed a very interesting paper on this subject to the "Zeitschrift des Deutschen Alpen-vereins." In order to ascertain the extent to which seeds are carried by currents of air, the writer made a careful investigation of the flora of the glacier-moraines, and of

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\* A Quarterly Journal of Microscopy and the allied Natural Sciences: with the Transactions of the State Microscopical Society of Illinois. Edited by S. A. Briggs, Chicago. No. 1, 8vo. pp. 64. 1871. With a lithographic plate and wood cuts.